

Message Text

CONFIDENTIAL

PAGE 01 BOMBAY 02393 140506Z

12

ACTION OES-06

INFO OCT-01 ISO-00 NEA-10 SSO-00 /017 W

----- 097852

O 131130Z SEP 76

FM AMCONSUL BOMBAY

TO SECSTATE WASHDC IMMEDIATE 6757

INFO AMEMBASSY NEW DELHI IMMEDIATE

C O N F I D E N T I A L BOMBAY 2393

STADIS//////////

E.O. 11652 GDS

TAGS: TECH, IN

SUBJ: TARAPUR BUY-BACK

RES: STATE 224728

1. ONLY ABLE DISCUSS REFTTEL INFORMALLY WITH SETHNA AS IT ARRIVED AFTER HE HAD LEFT OFFICE LAST TIME PRIOR TO HIS TRIP TO RIT. SETHNA COULD NOT PROVIDE MUCH QUANTITATIVE INFORMATION WITHOUT HIS FILES, BUT HE NOTED (A) TARAPUR ELECTRICITY SOLD TO GUJARAT AND MAHARASHTRA ON COST-PLUS BASIS, (B) PRICE IS CURRENTLY ABOUT 12 PAISA PER KWH (100 PAISAS - 1 RUPEE), (C) HIS COST ESTIMATES INCLUDE CREDITS FOR BOTH URANIUM AND PLUTONIUM CONTAINED IN WASTE AND INCLUSION OF THESE VALUES TENDS TO DEPRESS ATOMIC POWER AUTHORITY'S RECEIPTS FROM SALE OF POWER.
2. SETHNA ESTIMATED VALUE OF U IN SPENT FUEL AT \$5 MILLION. HE WAS NOT ABLE TO QUANTIFY VALUE OF PU WITHOUT FILES. HIS REMARKS INDICATE THAT FIGURE OF 5 MILLION IS ROUGH EQUIVALENT OF CURRENT PRODUCTION COST OF U ENRICHED BY ABOUT 1.2 PER CENT (WHICH HE BELIEVES IS AVERAGE ENRICHMENT CONTAINED IN HIS SPENT FUEL).
3. HE ADDED THAT HIS COST OF REPROCESSING A KILOGRAM OF PU IS ABOUT 800 RUPEES, INCLUDING COST OF SOLIDIFYING WASTE.

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4. WE AGREED THAT CONGEN WOULD PURSUE THESE QUESTIONS
FURTHER WITH J.C. SHAH, HEAD OF ATOMIC POWER AUTHORITY,
WHEN LATTER RETURNS TO BOMBAY ON SEPTEMBER 14. TH. CONGEN
WILL REPORT FURTHER.
COURTNEY

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NNN

Message Attributes

Automatic DecapTIONing: Z
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Concepts: NUCLEAR FUELS, ELECTRIC POWER, PRICES, TARAPUR
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Draft Date: 13 SEP 1976
DecapTION Date: 28 MAY 2004
DecapTION Note: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition Comment: 25 YEAR REVIEW
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Disposition History: n/a
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Margaret P. Grafeld
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